1st November 1932]

(*b*) whether it is a fact that he was given about 200 beatings with lathies and canes by about five policemen and kicked by the Sub-Inspector;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the police after so severely beating him left him on the road side about 11 miles away unconscious without giving him any medical assistance;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that he was later admitted as an in-patient in the Udipi Government hospital; if so, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place a copy of the accident register noting the injuries on his person, or, if that is not possible, at least a copy of the statement of the medical officer who attended on him showing the number and nature of the wounds on his body; and

(*e*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) *to* (*e*) From the report of the District Magistrate, it appears prima facie that force was used in excess of the requirements of the situation. The Government have called for further information with a view to the taking of such disciplinary action as may be necessary.

Press Communiqué, dated 18th April 1932 regarding the malingering of Congress volunteers beaten with light canes.

* 253 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to the Press Communiqué, dated 18th April 1932—

(*a*) whether the Government have taken expert medical opinion before coming to the conclusion and stated therein that picketers feign unconsciousness as it is most improbable that they should be rendered unconscious by being beaten with light canes;

(*b*) what the cases are that the Government say they have investigated and what the nature of the investigation is in each which, according to the Government, has proved that reports of excessive beatings are exaggerations;

(*c*) whether the Government have investigated into the cases of reported excessive beating of picketers in Mangalore on the 10th and 11th April 1932; if so, what the nature of the enquiry is and who were the persons examined; and

(*d*) will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to call for a statement of the District Medical Officer, Mangalore, who treated the beaten picketers Messrs. Keshava, M. M. Rama Rao and Jayarama Shetty, stating (i) the number and nature of the beating; (ii) whether any of the picketers could have become unconscious by the beating; (iii) whether any of them were actually unconscious and were having fever; and (iv) whether there were any fractures to any of the injured by the beating administered by the alleged light canes?

[1st November 1932

A.—(*a*) The Government do not find any necessity for the expert opinion suggested.

(*b*) Investigations have been made in 38 cases. It is left to the District Magistrate concerned to decide what the nature of the investigation should be according to the circumstances. The Government have no information as to the nature of the investigation in each case.

(*c*) & (*d*) A report has been received from the District Magistrate from which it appears prima facie that force in excess of the requirements of the situation was used in two cases. Some further information has been called for with a view to the taking of such disciplinary action as may be necessary.

Alleged beating of Mr. Vittappa Prabhu on 14th May 1932 at Mangalore.

* 254 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that one Vitappa Prabhu was beaten mercilessly by the police of Mangalore when he was in police custody and was being escorted by them from near the market to the police station on 4th May 1932;

(*b*) whether he is an in-patient in the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore, and whether any certificate has been given to him by the District Medical Officer, Mangalore; if so, whether the hon. the Home Member will be pleased to place a copy of the same or a copy of a statement of the District Medical Officer showing the number of injuries and their nature on the table;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that he has about two fractures caused by the beating; and

(*d*) what action have the Government taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) It is reported that he was beaten by the police when being taken to the police station on 4th May 1932.

(*b*) He was discharged from the hospital on 25th May 1932. The Government are not aware of any certificate given to him by the District Medical Officer.

(*c*) There was no fracture.

(*d*) The question of the disciplinary action to be taken is under the consideration of the Government who have called for further information.

Alleged flogging of certain forest satyagrahis.

* 255 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that 14 forest satyagrahis were sentenced to be flogged by the Joint Magistrate of Coondapur on 10th June 1932;